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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, March 30, 2006

Arts & Sciences Executive Committee

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Meeting Minutes
Executive Committee of the Arts and Sciences
March 30, 2006

Members attending: Mark Anderson, Tom Cook, Nancy Decker, Hoyt Edge, Patricia Lancaster, Dorothy Mays, Catlin McConnell, Rick Bommelje

- I. Call to Order:** T. Cook called the meeting to order at 12:37 pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of March 16, 2006 were approved with corrections.
- III. Announcements:**
T. Cook congratulated C. McConnell on her re-election as President of SGA.
- IV. New Business:**
Nominations for Vice President of the Faculty for 2006-2007
T. Cook solicited nominations for the Vice President of the Faculty for 2006-2007 in light of R. Bommelje's departure for sabbatical. There was discussion on possible candidates and T. Cook will make contacts to seek interest level.

Results of Faculty Colloquium on the Strategic Plan

P. Lancaster reviewed the results of the Faculty Colloquium on the Strategic Plan which was held on March 17, 2006. As a result of suggestions on The Rollins Experience, it was recommended that the focus be placed on integrating the four points rather than having each of them stand alone. There was discussion on the rationale and wording of the four points. H. Edge offered that the term strategic plan be replaced with the term strategic goals. P. Lancaster stated that she is committed to the content of the four points and is open to the overarching title. The fourth point was changed to read "an innovative, supportive work environment in which faculty, staff, and students work, learn and grow." It was agreed that the four points will be known as "Guiding Commitments" in place of the words "Strategic Plan". The Executive Committee expressed its support for the document with a unanimous voice vote. P. Lancaster will bring this item to the faculty at the next faculty meeting.

Process for search for Dean of the Faculty position

T. Cook reviewed the results of the last faculty meeting in which the faculty voted to do conduct a national search for the Dean of the Faculty position and to appoint an interim dean for one year. T. Cook queried as to the role of the Executive Committee in setting up the structure of the search committee and its membership. P. Lancaster confirmed that it is customary to have the search committee endorsed by the faculty. There was discussion about the makeup of the committee with regard to student and staff representation. N. Decker stated that the search committee should have a great preponderance of faculty. C. McConnell identified that the communication lines have been greatly opened up between students and faculty during the past few years and if students were left out of the search process there would be a void. T. Cook asked about the presence of a staff member on the committee. H. Edge stated that staff representation

would be valuable to assist in educating the faculty members so that they would better understand the office's operation.

It was agreed that the search committee will be comprised of 4 faculty members, one student, and one staff member. P. Lancaster stated that in searches, President Duncan prefers to have search committees bring him 2-3 candidates as finalists without a ranking. T. Cook stated that identifying the slate for the search committee will be on the agenda of the next Executive Committee meeting.

AAC: Process for Curricular Renewal

M. Anderson shared the vision for the process of curricular renewal which will begin next Fall. AAC is recommending that there be a primary group of 5-7 members be established to oversee the process. The full faculty will be viewed as a large committee and the organizing committee will serve as chair of the large committee. The primary role of the committee will be to engage the full community at every step of the entire process so that everyone feels ownership. M. Anderson distributed goals for the group and emphasized that this should be a ground-up process as opposed to having one committee make specific recommendations. T. Cook asked how long the process will take and M. Anderson identified it would be 2-3 years. M. Anderson stated that, ideally, nominations should be sought for membership on the committee. C. McConnell stated that there should be student membership on the committee. There was discussion about student representation. C. McConnell also stated that there should be staff membership. H. Edge asked about the distinction between committee membership versus having input and communication since the By-Laws are clear about the faculty being in charge of the curriculum. H. Edge stated that many faculty members do not volunteer themselves and this method for selection would limit having a strong, diverse committee. M. Anderson pointed out that serving on the curricular renewal group should be viewed as a privilege.

At-large seats on standing governance committees.

T. Cook stated that a general appeal will go out on serving for at large-seats on standing committees for 2006-2008. T. Cook distributed the available seats for each of the standing committees. It was also suggested that Executive Committee members should encourage that faculty members nominate candidates.

Interim Dean of the Faculty

P. Lancaster stated that H. Edge has been asked if he would be willing to serve as the interim Dean of the Faculty for one year beginning on June 1, 2006. President Duncan and Provost-elect Casey are very supportive of this appointment. P. Lancaster pointed out that faculty endorsement for this appointment is appropriate. N. Decker made a motion that the Executive Committee endorse the appointment of H. Edge as interim Dean of the Faculty and it was unanimously confirmed. This appointment will be taken to the faculty for approval/endorsement at the next faculty meeting.

- V. The next Executive Meeting will be held on April 13, 2006 at 12:30 pm in the Faculty Club.
- VI. T. Cook adjourned the meeting at 1:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Bommelje
Vice-President/Treasurer